

polypeptide fragment prepared by the method according to claim 48, and detecting the presence of bound antibody resulting from the administration or incubation.

72. A method for the preparation of an immunological composition such as a vaccine, the method comprising the steps of admixing a polypeptide fragment prepared according to the method of claim 48, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle, or diluent, and optionally an adjuvant.--

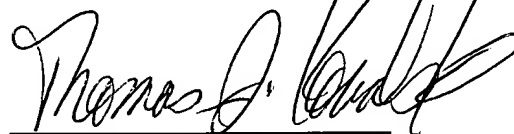
REMARKS

This application includes multiple claim dependencies. The amendment reduces the multiple claim dependencies, and the filing fee for this application was computed on this basis. No estoppel, surrender of subject matter, waiver, admission, or prejudice is intended by this amendment.

Entry of this amendment and an early examination on the merits are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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